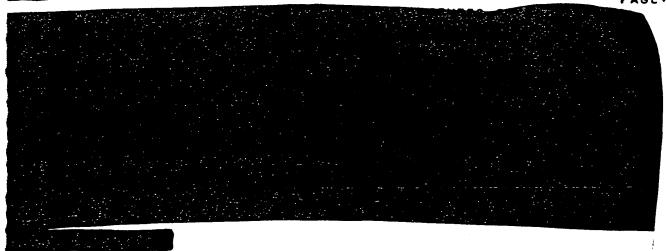
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1. HAITI: MALVAL PROPOSES DEAL TO MILITARY

ACTING PRIME MINISTER MALVAL HAS APPROACHED MILITARY LEADERS WITH A PLAN TO END THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CRISIS,

EARLIER THIS WEEK,

MALVAL'S EMISSARY SOUGHT THE APPROVAL OF POLICE CHIEF FRANCOIS FOR THE PLAN AND ASKED HIM TO SUBMIT IT TO ARMY CHIEF CEDRAS. UNDER THE PROPOSAL MALVAL WOULD REMAIN PRIME MINISTER AND WOULD PERSUADE THE LEGISLATURE TO INVOKE ARTICLE 148, GIVING HIM EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY AND BLOCKING PRESIDENT ARISTIDE'S RETURN. HE ALSO PROMISED TO ASSIGN CABINET POSITIONS TO EACH MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY AND TO COORDINATE CLOSELY WITH THE ARMED FORCES DURING INTERNATIONAL TALKS ON MILITARY REFORM.

HARDLINE RIGHTIST LEADERS ARE SUPPORTING A RESOLUTION DRAFTED BY ANTI-ARISTIDE LEGISLATORS THAT WOULD ALSO IMPLEMENT ARTICLE 148 AND RETAIN MALVAL.

COMMENT: MALVAL MAY HAVE PROPOSED THE DEAL NOW TO PREEMPT ARISTIDE'S AGENDA AT THE MIAMI CONFERENCE THIS WEEKEND. MILITARY LEADERS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO SETTLE ON A STRATEGY FOR PREVENTING ARISTIDE'S RETURN, BUT <u>CEDRAS</u> AND FRANCOIS--UNDER THE PRESSURE OF INCREASING ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS AND THE GROWING POTENTIAL FOR A CHALLENGE FROM THE RIGHT--MAY WELCOME MALVAL'S PROPOSAL AS A WAY OUT OF THE DILEMMA. THE MILITARY PROBABLY COULD PERSUADE RECALCITRANT

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FRISLATORS TO ACCEPT THE PLAN.

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